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dominate U.S. Open
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THE FRONTLINE

SPORTS & RECREATION

APRIL 29, 2010

Stewart-Hunter servicemembers golf with 'Legends'



Nancy Gould

Professional golf legend Joey Sindelar gives golfing tips to Stewart-Hunter's "joint" service team that played in the Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf Pro-Am at the Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort, April 22. Team players represented the U.S. Army, the U.S. Marine Corps, the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Air Force.

Nancy Gould
Hunter Army Airfield Public Affairs

Four servicemembers stood side-by-side on the luscious greens of the Westin's Savannah Harbor Golf Resort, April 22. The cool morning air was damp as golfers took their places on the 7th hole for the 7 a.m. shotgun start on day two of Liberty Mutual Legends Pro Am. Playing with them was senior golf legend Joey Sindelar; teeing off on the hole after them was golf legend Ken Green.

It was single-digit handicaps that attested to their golfing skills, earning Sgt. Chris Wiley, 2nd Beach and Terminal Operations Company, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve; Sgt. 1st Class Chris Gray, 260th Quartermaster Battalion, 3rd Sustainment Brigade; Staff Sgt. Cory Burns, 15th Air Operations Squadron, U.S. Air Force; and Petty Officer 1st Class Adam Morehouse, U.S. Coast Guard, Air Station Savannah; their position on the greens, courtesy of local contributors who seized the opportunity as a way to express gratitude to active-duty military members for their service.

The servicemembers also expressed appreciation to play in such an elite venue. The Pro-Am precedes the formal tournament and features the greatest names in golf playing in a team, best-ball format.

The group played 16 under par on Thursday and 29 under par for the combined tournament, said Sgt. Wiley.

"This has been awesome," said Sgt. 1st Class Gray, adding that the group felt humbled to play in the presence of golfing greatness.

"Seeing champions like Tom Watkins is a thrill," said Staff Sgt. Burns.

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188th Inf Bde Soldiers volunteer in support of Special Olympics

Capt. Kurt Van Slooten
188th Infantry Brigade Public Affairs

Soldiers from the 188th Infantry Brigade and Fort Stewart volunteered to assist with the Liberty County and Fort Stewart Special Olympics held at Fort Stewart's Quick Track, April 16.

Soldiers, Family Members, community members and volunteers from the local Youth Challenge assisted with this year's event to make it a success for more than 125 student athletes.

Fort Stewart has hosted the Liberty County Special Olympics for the past 21 years, said Mavis Crowell, Fort Stewart Exceptional Family Member Program manager.

"We always appreciate the support from the Soldiers for the event," said Crowell. "We look forward to this event along with the Fort Stewart community."

Sergeant First Class Jerome Blackmon attended the event in support of his son, Jerome.

"I think it is good to have the Soldiers and the community come

out and be involved in this event," said Sgt. 1st Class Blackmon, who has been involved with Special Olympics with his son for the past 10 years.

Captain Alexander Herren cheered with Connie Russell as her son, Hunter, won first place in his heat in the 50-meter dash and third place in the softball throw. Hunter, a 9-year-old from Missouri, attending Fort Stewart Diamond Elementary School, completed his second Special Olympic Games.

"I am glad the command supported the event and allowed the Soldiers and civilians from the brigade to participate in this event," said Lynnetta Smith, budget analyst for the 188th Infantry Brigade.

The 188th Infantry Brigade, along with the other training support brigades in First Army Division East, provides and facilitates theater-focused training for deploying National Guard and Reserve formations. Based out of Fort Stewart, the 188th has been training deploying National Guard and Reserve units for Iraq deployments continuously since 2003.



Capt. Kurt Van Slooten

Jerome Blackmon, son of Sgt. 1st Class Jerome Blackmond, 188th Infantry Bde., competes in the 100 meter dash at the Liberty County Special Olympics at the Fort Stewart Quick Track, April 16. Soldiers from the 188th Infantry Bde. volunteered at the event.

Operation Catch Fish visits COS Falcon



SpC. Jared Eastman

Staff Sergeant Tyler Crane, 1st Advise and Assist Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division personal security detachment team leader, attempts to cast a fishing line into a metal trash can as part of a contest during Operation Catch Fish on Contingency Operating Station Falcon April 24. About 50 Soldiers took part in the event. The event also featured two New Orleans "SaintSations" cheerleaders, fishing show hosts Joe Mercurio and Sheli Sanders and pro fisherwoman Mary Delgado.



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Army Greco-Roman wrestlers dominate U.S. Open

Tim Hipps
FMWRC Public Affairs

CLEVELAND – Staff Sergeant Glenn Garrison and Spc. Nathan Piasecki led Army wrestlers to the Greco-Roman team title, April 23-24 at the U.S. Open in Cleveland State University's Wolstein Center.

All told, eight Soldiers competed in the finals of the national championships for Olympic-style wrestling.

Garrison defeated U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program teammate and 2009 World Team member Spc. Faruk Sahin 0-2, 3-0, 1-0 in the 66-kilogram/145.4-pound Greco-Roman finale.

"I'm still hungry, and I haven't won it yet, so that's what I'm still shooting for," Garrison said of his desire to win a world championship. "I want to be able to say I'm the best in the world."

"This means a lot. Before I went out there to wrestle, I was telling myself, 'I'm tired of second. Second is not good enough anymore. I need to be on.' So the outcome took care of itself, I guess."

Garrison, 36, knows the clock is ticking.

"I have two years until I retire from wrestling," he said. "My short-term goal is making the world team and my long-term goals are winning at the World Championships, making the Olympic team and winning at the Olympic championships."

Garrison believes he is wrestling better than ever before.

"I'm more strategic," he said. "I used to wrestle all from the heart, and now I think I'm old enough that I can get a little tricky."

He learned most of his tricks from WCAP teammates.

"There's nowhere else on earth I could do this," Garrison said. "The Army provides me the chance to chase my Olympic dream. They keep bringing younger and newer bodies in and I teach a lot, but I try to learn a trick or two from them, too."

Sahin was heavily bandaged because of a head-butt he sustained that required eight stitches in his forehead. Sahin suffered a bloody nose that turned his semifinal match against New York Athletic Club's Ellis Coleman into a veritable blood bath.

"This is a gladiator sport," WCAP coach Shon Lewis said. "I don't recall a match that bloody. It's been a long time, but this is the U.S. Open for the national championships, and it's a great steppingstone to achieve, step over, and step on."

The top seven finishers in each weight class at the U.S. Open qualified for a spot in USA Wrestling's World Team Trials, scheduled for June 11-12 at the Mid-America Center in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

"The real meat and potatoes are made at the World Team Trials in six weeks," Lewis said. "(It's) where we determine who is going to be the number one-ranked guy and who is going to represent the United States at the World Championships in Moscow, Russia."

Piasecki prevailed over Sunkist Kids' Chad Vandiver by injury default in the 60-kilogram/132-

pound Greco division. Piasecki head-butted Vandiver out of bounds with 59 seconds remaining in the first period. Vandiver returned to the mat but never recovered. Twelve seconds later, Piasecki pushed him out of bounds again and the match was stopped.

"I gave him an unintentional head butt and he went down and he looked like he was a little bit hurt, and then he came back strong again," Piasecki said. "Then I got a takedown and he seemed like he was still hurt, so I guess the trainer called the match. I heard that he had a prior concussion a few weeks ago. I wanted to wrestle a full match. I was feeling good. ... It was unintentional, so I feel bad, but that just happens sometimes."

Piasecki, 28, had never finished higher than third at nationals.

"I'm real happy about this," he said. "This is like a dream come true. I've trained really, really hard and lifted really, really hard, and I feel like I really peaked extremely well this time. I had an injury in January that allowed me to sit a little bit for my body to heal and mentally focus to get ready for this tournament."

"All my closest friends have been telling me I was going to win it this year and I just believed them. This is the ultimate for me right now, but my goal is the Olympics. I want to place and get some medals. This is a good step to get me some international experience and get me over-seas more."

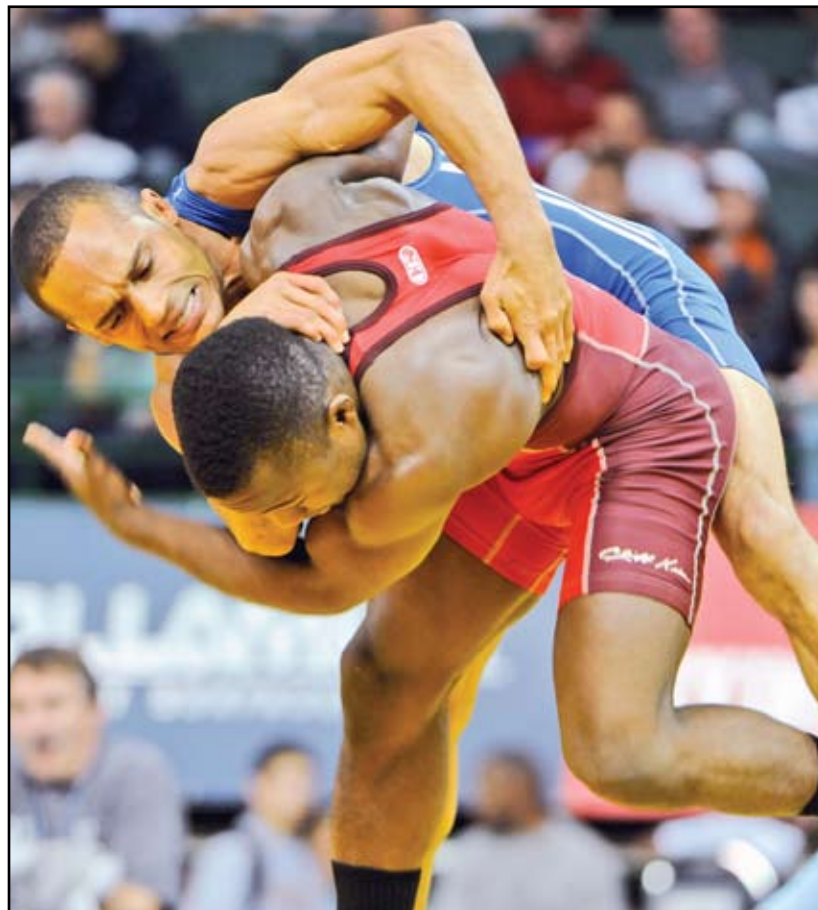
Olympian and World Team member Spenser Mango scored in the waning seconds to defeat defending national champion WCAP Spc. Jermaine Hodge 0-1, 1-0, 2-0 at 55 kilos/121 pounds.

"Those are the two best guys in the weight class," Lewis said. "We came up a little bit short tonight. It was an intense match. That's the way Greco is supposed to look like right there."

All-Army wrestler Staff Sgt. Jess Hargrave battled gamely on an injured right leg before losing a 1-0, 1-0 decision to New York Athletic Club's Jake Fisher in the finale at 74 kilos/163 pounds.

"His meniscus is torn in three places," Lewis said of Hargrave. "We were just coming in here with a lot of prayers and smoking mirrors, and he was able to make it that far. That lets you know what kind of fighter he is. A lot of guys would have just bowed out and tried to get ready for the World Team Trials, but he wanted to get it done."

WCAP wrestler Pfc. John Lorenz lost 2-0, 1-0 to six-time national champion Justin Ruiz of New York Athletic Club in the 96-kilo/211.5-pound Greco finale.



Tim Hipps

U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program wrestler Spc. Jermaine Hodge works atop New York Athletic Club's Spenser Mango during the 55-kilo/121-pound Greco-Roman finale of the U.S. Open at Cleveland State University's Wolstein Center, April 24. Mango won the national championship with a 0-1, 1-0, 2-0 victory.

"He's making great progress, and he's a fighter," Lewis said of Lorenz. "When you're dealing with a fighter, you can always work on that."

In women's freestyle, WCAP Spc. Othella Lucas returned from a two-year hiatus from wrestling and upset top-seeded Deanna Rix in the 72-kilo/158.5-pound semifinals before losing 2-0, 1-0 in the finals to Sunkist Kids' Kelsey Campbell, who was named outstanding female wrestler of the tournament.

Four-time national champion WCAP Sgt. Iris Smith lost 1-0, 5-0 to Stephany Lee in the women's finale at 72 kilos/158.5 pounds.

Three Soldiers finished third in their respective Greco-Roman weight classes: Spc. Jeremiah Davis at 60 kilos/132.25 pounds, Sgt. Aaron Sieracki at 84 kilos/185 pounds and Spc. Timothy Taylor at 120 kilos/264.5 pounds.

WCAP Staff Sgt. Dremiel Byers, a three-time medalist at the World Championships and eight-time national champion at 120 kilos/264.5 pounds, missed weigh-ins and did not compete in the U.S. Open.

"We had an unfortunate situation at the weigh-ins, but it's a little sweeter that we were able to do [so well] with some of the young guys," Lewis said. "Some of the young guys stepped up and became horses tonight."

SPORTS & RECREATION BRIEFS

The CYSS Central Registration, building 443, Gulick Avenue is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., for sign-up.

For additional information, call the Youth Sports Office at Jordan Youth Gym at 912-767-4371.

Enjoy Moonlite Bowling

Come out and enjoy late-night bowling at Stewart Lanes Bowling Center, building 450, when we are open until 2 a.m. The cost is just \$2.50 per game per person. Or, pay a flat fee of \$25 per person for unlimited bowling from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m. The shoe rental fee is \$1.75.

Call 912-767-4273 for more information.

Take the English Channel Challenge

Do you have what it takes to swim the English Channel? Find out by participating in the English Channel Challenge at Newman Fitness Center, building 439, from May 1 through Oct. 31.

This is an honor-based aquatics fitness incentive program. Participants register to participate in a challenge to swim the width of the English

Channel, 240 kilometers (150 miles) wide.

Those who complete the challenge in the allotted time frame will receive a prize. For more information, call 912-767-3669.

Catch Savannah Derby Devils, May 22

Paint your face Savannah Devil red and come out to support the Savannah Derby Devils as they take on the Upstate Roller Girl Evolution (URGE) of Greenville, S.C., at SuperGoose Sports, 3700 Wallin St. in Savannah, May 22.

Doors open at 6 p.m.; derby beings at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 at the door (cash only), or \$10 online at www.savannahderby.com.

Sign up for Roller Girl Boot Camp

Register now for the Savannah Derby Devils Roller Girl Boot Camp 2010. The camp will take place nightly, June 6-11 at the Garden City Gym at 160 Wheat Hill Road. No skills required; gear and skates are provided.

The camp is open to women and men ages 18 and older.

The week offers nightly instruction in the basics

of roller skating and a taste of the aggressive sport of women's roller derby.

Registration includes rental skates and protective gear, a Savannah Derby Devils T-shirt, freebies from vendors during orientation and an end-of-camp party at B&B Billiards, 411 W. Congress St., Savannah.

Space is limited, so register early. Registration fee is \$20 by May 31, \$25 afterward. To register, go to www.savannahderby.com.

For those interested in joining the Savannah Derby Devils, the week prepares skaters for try-outs on June 29 and offers guys and gals the basics needed to join the referee squad, or just come to meet new friends and have a great time!

For more information, visit

Team Stewart

www.stewart.army.mil

LEGENDS

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On day one of the tournament, Jim Albus played with the military team; on day two, Joey Sindelar. The pros interact with the Pro-Am teams and gave tips and strategy about how to improve their game.

For Petty Officer 1st Class Moorehouse, the biggest thrill of the event was to tee off from the same hole as golf legend Ken Green. He admires Green for his golf record but also for returning to the tour after losing his leg in an automobile accident last June. Green also lost his fiancée, his brother and his dog in that accident, and in January, his 21-year old son away at college was found dead.

“Besides a great golfer, Ken showed the world that determination conquers all,” said Petty Officer 1st Class Moorehouse.

“On Thursday, our pro, Joey Sindelar watched me struggle with my swing on the first tee,” he continued. “He told me how to fix it, and I ended up playing the best game of my life.”

The respect was shared by the pros.

“It is my pleasure to play with these guys,” said Sindelar, who also expressed thanks for all they do for

this country. “All the tour professionals enjoy our military players. We don’t want them to be nervous. We just want them to relax and have fun.”

With a handicap of three, Sgt. Chris Wiley was the most accomplished of the foursome.

“I’ve been playing since I was 8-years-old,” he said. “Besides playing with the legends, I’d say the best part was making new friends. We exchanged numbers and will definitely play together in the future.”

Leaders of Liberty Mutuals’ Legends said military participation was a highlight of the week.

“We were honored to have the group of players from Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield,” said Joe Rotellini, executive director of the tournament. “I can’t think of a better way to give back to the military than to include these players in our Pro-Am and to give our military community free admission to the tournament.”

Liberty Mutual also gives back to the military through its “Birdies for Charity” program that benefits the Chaplain’s Fund at Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield. For every birdie made on the four Par-three holes dur-

ing the tournament (Friday – Sunday) Liberty Mutual donates \$100. For every hole-in-one, the donation goes up to \$10,000.

Active duty servicemembers, their Families and retirees were admitted

free throughout the week, which ended with the professional legends’ tournament on April 25, the same day the tournament honored all active-duty military with a special morning ceremony.



Nancy Gould

Sergeant First Class Chris Gray, 260th Quartermaster Battalion, 3rd Sustainment Bde., putts on the 8th hole at the Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf Pro-Am at the Westin Savannah Harbor, April 22. Players on the military team were from joint services and were chosen according to their golf handicaps.